

Remarks

Amendment

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants have amended the specification to add sequence ID numbers and to correct typographical mistakes.

Applicants have inserted a sequence listing into the specification and a sequence listing in computer readable form has been included in this response. The undersign avers that the paper copy of the sequence listing is identical to the computer readable form of the sequence listing. Further, the sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure of the original application.

No new material was added by these amendments and their entry is requested.

Amendment to the Claims

Applicants have amended claims 24 and 42 to include SEQ ID numbers. Since no new material was added, the entry of the amendments are requested.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the claims were restricted into 10 groups as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-24, drawn to a method of guiding the fate of differentiation of a cell into a specific cell type by contacting the cell with a Groucho-interacting protein (GIP), classified in class 435, subclass 375.

Group II: Claims 1-24, drawn to a method of guiding the fate of differentiation of a cell into a specific cell type by contacting the cell with a Groucho-interacting protein (GIP), classified in class 424, subclass 9.1.

Group III: Claims 25-28, 42-44 and 57, drawn to an isolated polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:7 and 13, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

Group IV: Claims 29-38, drawn to an isolated DNA encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:7 and 13, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1

Group V: Claims 39-41, drawn to an antibody that binds to the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:7 and 13, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.

Group VI: Claim 61, drawn to an antibody that binds to the GIP/Groucho-corepressor protein complex, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.

Group VII: Claims 45-54, drawn to a purified GIP/Groucho-corepressor protein complex, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

Group VIII: Claims 55-60, drawn to a chimeric polypeptide comprising a portion of GIP and a portion of Groucho-corepressor, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.

Group IX: Claims 62-63, 69-70, drawn to a kit comprising antibodies specific to GIP, Groucho-corepressor and GIP/Groucho-corepressor-complex and method of diagnosing the proteins or complex classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

Group X: Claims 64-68, 71 drawn to a method of identifying agents that modulates, disrupt, or interact with the GIP/Groucho-corepressor-complex, and treating a disease involving altered levels of GIP/Groucho-corepressor-complex classified in class 435, subclass 4 and class 514, subclass 2.

Applicant elect group 1, claims 1-24, *in vitro* methods claims, for further prosecution with traverse. The Office Action cites two reasons for the restriction of claims 1-24 into groups 1 and 2. The first reason is that *in vitro* methods may involve differentiation of terminally matured neuronal cell lines. The second reason is that *in vivo* methods require site specific delivery. The restriction is traversed because the claimed method is functional both *in vitro* and *in vivo* and is not limited to particular cell lines or delivery methods. Since the reasons cited for the restriction is not part of the claimed method, the restriction of claims 1-24 into two groups is not necessary. For this reason, Applicants request that the restriction of claims 1-24 into group 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicants traverse the restriction of the claims into ten groups. The claims are drawn to methods, kits, proteins, and nucleic acids relating the use of GIP/Groucho. As such, it would not be difficult to examine the claims at the same time. For the reasons stated above, Applicants request that the restriction of the pending claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit, that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding this amendment and remark, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 212-935-3000, New York, New York. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed herein.

The Director is authorized to charge all fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. **50-0311**, Ref. No. 21882-502, Customer No. **35437**.

Respectfully submitted,

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